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REMARKS

This response is intended as a full and complete response to the Office Action mailed June 14, 2006. Please reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below.

I. INTERVIEW SUMMARY

On November 13, 2006, a telephone interview was conducted with the Examiner, Kin-Wah Tong and Chance Hardie. Claim 96 was discussed in view of the rejections in the office action. A potential agreement was reached that amendments as presented herein would likely overcome the § 101 rejections. Further, Applicants discussed the incorporation of the term "multiset" into independent claim 96, as presented in this amendment, with respect to *Thalhammer-Reyero* (U.S. Patent No. 5,980,096). In view of this discussion, the Examiner indicated that further consideration would be required with respect to the § 102 rejections.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §101

Claims 32, 33, 96, 98, 100 and 102-107 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter and lacking utility. In response, Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection. Applicants canceled claims 32, 33 and 105-107 without prejudice.

Claim 96, as amended, includes a recitation to "provide an output comprising at least one of: the terminal state or at least one of the alternative resultant states, wherein the output is indicative of at least one of: a change in cell proliferation, a disease prediction, or a drug target identification." As discussed in the interview, this outputting operation provides a tangible result, overcomes the non-statutory subject matter rejection and finds support in the specification at least at page 7, lines 4-5 and the 'User Interfaces' section beginning on page 16. The Examiner further agreed during the interview that inclusion of the uses identified in the Office Action at page 4, lines 17-18 and currently recited in claim 96 will

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